

Andrew Jackson to Moses Dawson, July 17, 1830, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO MOSES DAWSON.

Hermitage, July 17, 1830.

Private

My D'r sir. yours of the 5th instant reached me some days since, but such was my situation, that I could not answer it until now.

On my arrival here I was met by a letter from the Secretary of State, informing me of the resignation of Mr Herrick, inclosing me Strong, numerous, and respectable recommendations for Mr. Noah H. Swayne, with a blank commission to be filled. I have given the subject a full consideration and notwithstanding the respectable recommendations of Mr Swayne with the members of Congress at its head, I should have selected Mr Lytle, but in doing so, it would have violated the republican rule we have adopted to take but one of a family into office at a time. Having appointed Genl Lytle Surveyor Genl we could not consistant with this rule, fill this vacancy by his son Mr Lytle who you have presented, and who, I have no doubt would have discharged the duties with credit to himself, and benefit to the Govt. Noah H Swayne was appointed.¹

¹ U. S. district attorney for Ohio 1830–1841; justice U. S. Supreme Court 1862–1881.

I have not time to go into the Bank question at present, can only observe, that my own opinion is, that it should be merely a *national Bank of deposit* , with power in time of war to Issue its bills bearing a moderate interest, and payable at the close of the war which

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being guaranteed by the national faith, Pledged, and based upon our revenue, would be sought after by the monied Capitalist, and do away, in time of war, the necessity of *loans*. This is all the kind of a bank that a republic, should have. But if to be made a bank of discount as well as deposit; I would frame its charter upon the checks of our Govt. Attach it to, and make a part of the revenue, and expose its situation as part thereof annually to the nation, the profits of which would then onure to the whole people, instead, of a *few Monied Capitalists* , who are trading upon our revenue, and enjoy the benefit of it, to the exclusion of the many. The Bank of deposit, and even of discount would steer clear of the constitutional objections to the present Bank, and all the profits arising would accrue, and be disposable as other revenue for the benefit of the nation. Company crowds me and I must close.

With great respect your friend